

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/025,758

Examiner

Chih-Ching Chow

Applicant(s)

MATSUSHIMA, HIROYUKI

Art Unit

2191

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 3/10/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4-14 and 17-28.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 12/26/01, 12/1/03, 2/11/04, 6/6/04, 12/16/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

1. This action is responsive to amendment dated March 10, 2006.
2. Claims 1, 4-14, 17-28 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior arts of record: **Maniwa**, teaches a network system, which is used to build systems as a printing system, a facsimile system, and an electronic circulation system making use of workstations already installed. **Moskowitz**, teaches a system for enhancing trust in transactions, most particularly in remote transactions between a plurality of transactional parties; **Pham**, teaches a method of installing computer software components on a client device for enabling connectivity to a host system by at least one of several different hardware devices typically includes receiving a connectivity component for enabling connectivity to a host system by at least one of several different hardware devices and detecting whether installation of the connectivity component is needed to enable connectivity between the client device and the host system. New arts made of record: **Matsushima**, US Patent No. 7,019,860, teaches a system which allows network printer obtaining information from a Web page over the network, and stores this obtained information together with a URL thereof and the time when this information was received into the storage; **Chan**, US Patent No. 6,748,538, teaches A platform featuring memory which contains a plurality of software components and a manifest which includes a digest of each of the plurality of the software components and a processor which is coupled to the memory. The processor executes a hash function to produce the manifest and to verify integrity of the plurality of software components by re-computing digests of the plurality of software components and comparing the computed digests with the digests of the manifest. However, none of them, taken alone or in combination, teaches the limitations of a an image formation system comprising: an image formation

apparatus connected to a network, said image formation apparatus having one or more hardware resources of a display section, an operation panel section, a printing section, and an image pickup section, wherein said image formation apparatus is capable of providing one or more services of a printer, a copier, or a facsimile; and a server connected to the network, said server providing a software component to said image formation apparatus via said network, wherein said image formation apparatus includes: a selection unit that selects a desired software component from a list of software components accumulated in said server and displayed on said display section, an acquisition unit that acquires the software component selected by said selection unit and authentication information from said server; and a control unit that controls processing operation of the software component acquired by said acquisition unit based on the authentication information acquired by said acquisition unit, wherein said control unit restricts the hardware resources available in said image formation apparatus for the acquired software component based on the authentication information; and when authentication based on the authentication information has failed, said control unit specifies minimum resources so that said display section and operation panel section of the resources become available for the software components, and when the authentication based on the authentication information has succeeded, said control unit specifies that all the resources are available for the software components in such a manner as recited in each of the independent claims 1, 14, 27, and 28.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chih-Ching Chow whose telephone number is 571-272-3693. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00am - 3:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wei Zhen can be reached on 571-272-3708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Chih-Ching Chow
Examiner
Art Unit 2191
May 10, 2006

CC



WEI ZHEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER